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COUNTRY Korea

DATE:

INFO:

SUBJECT Political Information: Travel Control in
North Korea

CONFIDENTIAL

DIST. 11 July 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN

This document is hereby regraded to
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
letter of 16 October 1978 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Archivist of the United States.

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EVALUATION OF CONTENT

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1. Since the end of February 1947 no major change has taken place in travel control in North Korea. Personal identification cards are still checked on the streets, at railway stations, and in hotels. Beyond these cards no special documents or permission are required for travel. Inspection of travelers has been relaxed somewhat, except for persons traveling to destinations south of Pyongyang (Heijo, 125-44, 39-01).
2. Railway guards in the stations do not examine the personal identification cards of all travelers as they did previously, but only those of individuals they consider suspicious, such as young or well-dressed people and those whose destinations are south of Pyongyang. No inspection of travelers is made on the train, and no inspectors are seen riding on the trains. [redacted] states that in February train passengers were inspected by three members of the Railway Peace Preservation Corps.)
3. Hotel inspections consisting of examination and interrogation of all transients registered at hotels are made at irregular intervals. Hotel registers are inspected daily by members of the Ho An Shu (保安署), the local Peace Preservation Office, which is under the direction of the provincial Peace Preservation Department.
4. Street inspections have become more rigid. They are usually made by one or two members of the Peace Preservation Office and are directed mainly against young or well-dressed individuals. In the smaller towns special attention is paid to strangers.
5. During the last week of April a new regulation prominently displayed in all cities requires every family that has a visitor staying overnight or longer to register the visitor with the local district leader. This order was posted on all street corners and was signed by General KIM Il-sung (金日成). Forms for registering visitors are provided by the district leaders. After registration the leaders turn the forms over to the Peace Preservation Office for possible future investigation.
6. A general inspection of all strangers and travelers, carried out in Sinuiju (Shingishu, 124-24, 40-06) and Uiju (Oishu, 124-32, 40-12) during the latter part of April was only a precautionary measure against possible anti-Communist demonstrations on May Day.

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NO CHANGE in Class.

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Class. CHANGED TO: TS S

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Auth: DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

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